



west virginia department of environmental protection

Division of Water & Waste Management
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Earl Ray Tomblin, Governor
Randy C. Huffman, Cabinet Secretary
www.dep.wv.gov

September 24, 2015

Barbara Douglas
USFWS Ecological Services
694 Beverly Pike
Elkins, WV 26241

Re: Mussel survey in Kanawha River for EPA Biological Assessment

Dear Ms. Douglas,

The West Virginia Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) Division of Water and Waste Management (DWWM) is requesting permission to survey for mussels in the Kanawha River main stem near river-mile 55, outside of the usual mussel surveying season. This survey has been requested of DEP by U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA), and will be done as part of a biological assessment in order to determine presence/absence of federally endangered species. This assessment has been requested by USEPA prior to approving a change to West Virginia Water Quality Standards rule 47CSR2, which would implement a site-specific Water Effect Ratio for copper in a portion of Kanawha River. This change to WV Water Quality Standards was made in accordance with W. Va. Code §29A, Administrative Procedures Act, and went into effect pending EPA approval on June 1, 2015 (summary and rule revision attached).

If you have any questions or need any additional information, please contact me at (304) 926-0499 extension 1110 or via email at Laura.K.Cooper@wv.gov.

Sincerely,

Laura Cooper
Assistant Director, Water Quality Standards
DWWM, DEP



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Kanawha River Copper Water Effect Ratio for Sanitary Board of City of Charleston, WV

Section – 47CSR2 section 7.2.d.19.2.

Revision Summary – A copper water effect ratio was added for The Sanitary Board of the City of Charleston, pursuant to EPA Streamlined Water-Effect Ratio Procedure for Discharges of Copper (see Appendix A Rationale – Final Application of Site-Specific Copper Water Effect Ratio).

Revision

7.2.d.19.2. ~~The minimum flow shall be 1,960 cfs at the Charleston gauge.~~ Pursuant to 46 CSR 6, a Copper Water Effect Ratio (WER) of 5.62 shall be applied to The Sanitary Board of the City of Charleston, West Virginia wastewater treatment plant discharge of total recoverable copper to Kanawha River, Zone 1.